

## SEVERE LOCAL STORMS, MARCH 1935

[Compiled by Mary O. Souder]

[The table herewith contains such data as have been received from U. S. Weather Bureau stations concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A revised list of tornadoes will appear in the Annual Report of the Chief of Bureau]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
San Pedro, Calif.	2	A. m.-1:50 p. m.	33		\$15,000	Squall	Property damaged; shrubs and trees uprooted; pillars twisted out of porches; 3 garages completely wrecked; no injuries reported.
Isabel and Pratt, Kans.	3	9 p. m.	30		900	Wind and rain	Chief damage to barns and small farm buildings.
Wichita, Kans., vicinity of	3	P. m.				Tornado winds	Number of buildings damaged.
Minnesota and Wisconsin	3-5		150	2	650,000	Sleet and glaze	Area extended from Beaver Bay, Minn., to slightly beyond Ashland, Wis., from Swan Lake, Minn., to Lawler, Minn., and from Moose Lake, Minn., to Solon Springs, Wis.; most destructive sleet and glaze storm ever experienced at Duluth; trees, poles and wires down; street cars halted and wire communication completely paralyzed.
Crossett, Ark., 9 miles east	4	P. m.		Q	500	Tornado	Damage to Crossett Camp buildings; path narrow.
Forney, Tex., and vicinity	4	4:30 a. m.	880	1	100,000	do.	15 persons injured; more than 50 percent of property loss estimated was in the business district; loss to residential property slight except in negro section where damage was heavy due to poor construction and bad condition of dwellings; path 10 miles long.
San Antonio, Tex.	5	6:25-6:38 p. m.	2,640		1,005,000	Hail	This storm one of the most destructive in the history of the city; buildings and houses damaged; loss to gardens and flowers \$5,000; path about 6 miles long.
Cleburne County, Ala.	5-6				600	Wind	Roofs and barns damaged.
Palestine, Tex., and vicinity	6	8:30 a. m.	13			Wind and hail	Automobile tops and roofs of buildings damaged.
Lincoln and Warren Counties, Ga.	6	4 p. m.	100	1	35,000	Tornado	Property damaged; path 20 miles long.
Geneva and Houston Counties, Ala.	6				9,000	Tornado winds	The storm struck eastern portion of Geneva and western Houston Counties in a southeasterly direction into Florida; 22 persons injured.
Pike County, Ala.	6					Wind	Some damage reported at various places in this county.
Sebewaing, Mich., and vicinity	6-7				175,000	Flood	Sebewaing located on Sebewaing River; much property damage as a result of an ice-jam combined with the sudden spring thaw.
Russellville, Ark., 7 miles northeast	10	8 p. m.	687	0	21,000	Tornado	4 persons injured; \$20,000 damage to property; \$1,000 loss to fruit trees.
Havana, Ark.	10	11 p. m.	200	0	1,000	do.	Property damaged.
Springfield, Mo.	10-11				2,000	Excessive rain	Streets, sewers, and basements flooded; traffic suspended on numerous highways; loss to livestock.
White, Black, and St. Francis River Basins, Ark.	10-12					Heavy rain and flood	More than 200,000 acres of land inundated; 20,000 families driven from home; worst flood since 1927.
Morris, Okla., and vicinity	11	4 a. m.	18		50,000	Heavy hail	Gardens and orchards severely damaged over the entire area; considerable property loss principally to buildings; path 35 miles long.
Okmulgee, Okla., and vicinity	11	4:30 p. m.	120		200,000	Severe hail	Roofs damaged; livestock killed; path 30 miles long.
Bolivar County, Miss.	11	5:45 p. m.	50	1	10,000	Tornado	11 persons injured; path short.
Pontotoc County, Miss.	11	8 p. m.	1	0	250,000	do.	3 persons injured; path 8 miles long.
Warren County, Miss.	11	P. m.		0	3,000	do.	Path narrow and short; other details not reported.
Milton, Tenn., vicinity of	11				5,000	Wind	2 persons injured; property damaged.
Newberry County, S. C.	12	11 a. m.			1,000	Wind	Property damaged.
Foster, Va.	12	11:15 a. m.	100	0	1,750	Tornado (incipient)	Several poultry houses blown down killing about 100 chickens.
Aiken County, S. C.	12				5,000	Wind	Buildings unroofed; trees and wires blown down.
Florence County, S. C.	12				10,000	do.	Buildings unroofed; telegraph and telephone poles and lines blown down.
Kiowa, Prowers, Baca and eastern Bent, and Las Animas Counties, Colo.	12-25			6		Dust	In many places the dust lay from a few inches to more than 6 feet deep causing 100 persons to become ill; livestock perished from starvation and suffocation; schools closed temporarily in many locations as a measure of safety and many tenants deserted their ranch homes; visibility so limited that artificial light was used during mid-day; no accurate estimate of the damage to topsoil through the drought area can be made, but it will amount to millions of dollars.
Goldsboro, N. C., 10 miles northeast	13				10,000	Tornadoic wind and rain	Woman critically injured when she was hurled from her house to the road and her home demolished; child hit by flying timber; farm house and buildings, 3 tenant houses, and 6 tobacco barns damaged to the extent of \$10,000.
Colorado	15	P. m.			34,000	Wind and dust	Loose topsoil from thousands of farms in the drought-stricken area of eastern Colorado carried by winds of high velocity caused hazardous driving and flying conditions; wind velocity at Denver Municipal Airport reached 77 miles per hour; damage to property in Denver and vicinity \$6,000; transient camp and powder house near Florence destroyed; Canon City loss estimated at \$3,000; telephone lines down; houses damaged; windows crushed; travel made extremely dangerous through Fremont County where loss of \$20,000 was reported; 20 automobiles stalled on highway near Nunn, failure of ignition systems of the stalled cars believed to have been due to static electricity generated by the terrific winds; cherry orchards in the rich agricultural section between Fort Collins and Loveland severely damaged when the freshly-plowed soil was swept away leaving the roots of trees bare; topsoil blown from fields producing winter wheat and alfalfa and in many cases fields will have to be reseeded.
Kansas, northwestern and north-central portions.	15-16	P. m.				Dust	In some northwestern counties where the storm struck in the later afternoon, visibility was reduced to zero within a few minutes and persons became lost within 100 yards of their home; trains were greatly delayed and travel by motor became exceedingly dangerous; as far east as Alton, where the storm arrived about 8 p. m., and continued for 5 hours, the air was so filled with dust street lights could not be seen across the street; many persons became lost in trying to walk home and many automobiles refused to start; persons were obliged to dampen handkerchiefs and keep them over their mouths and noses in order to breathe.
Wisconsin	16				35,000	Sleet and glaze	This storm covered the area in the eastern counties from Outagamie and Kewaunee on the north to Milwaukee on the south; heavy glaze in the vicinity of Green Bay southeast to Manitowish caused much damage to poles and wires, otherwise damage was light.
Buffalo, N. Y., and vicinity	17	6 a. m.-2 p. m.		1	2,000	Wind	Ferry operation between Tonawanda and Grand Island suspended part of the morning; man killed in Wyoming County when he grasped a live wire that had blown down; at Lake Chautauqua strong winds heaped hundreds of tons of ice on the railroad tracks at Dewittville and New Midway.
Topeka, Kans.	20	8 a. m.-4 p. m.				Dust	This storm the most severe dust storm in the history of city; visibility reduced from 6 miles to from 220 to 550 yards and at times to slightly more than a city block; sun entirely obscured by dust clouds; artificial illumination necessary indoors; lights used on motors; travel on highways so dangerous that some roads were closed; pedestrians and motorists left tracks almost as plainly as in newly fallen snow.
Alton (near) Iowa	20		880	0	1,000	Tornado	Damage to windmill and barn.
Del Rio, Tex.	21	7:40 p. m.			325,000	Wind	Property damage \$10,000; damage to empty oil tanks \$315,000.
Aspermont (near) Tex.	21	P. m.	200			Tornado	2 homes and a church destroyed.

<sup>1</sup> Miles instead of yards,

## SEVERE LOCAL STORMS, MARCH 1935—Continued

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks
Port Washington, Wis., 2 miles northwest.	22	4 p. m.	167-344	-----	20,000	Tornadic winds and hail.	The Knellsville canning factory unroofed and badly damaged and their brick warehouse demolished, the debris scattered for a great distance; many small farm buildings wrecked and 2 barns totally demolished; heavy hail fell in Belgium and vicinity; hail on fields and roads reported to be 8 inches deep, in places.
Allegan, Kent, Barry, Ionia, Eaton, and Ingham Counties, Mich.	22	P. m.	-----	-----	-----	Wind	Heaviest losses reported in last 2 counties named; many barns destroyed, 60 in Eaton County alone; damage throughout the entire area several hundred thousand dollars.
Wisconsin, northern portion	22-25	-----	-----	-----	-----	Flood	Flooding due to melting of heavy snow cover in northern portion of the State caused by rapidly rising waters in all streams in that section; tributaries of the Wisconsin River were so high that the ice broke up before it had chance to disintegrate and solid cakes 2 or more feet thick were carried down stream.
Omego and Kingfisher, Okla., and vicinity.	23	4 p. m.	15	-----	70,000	Wind and hail	No building in Kingfisher City escaped damage and one-half of them required new roofs; 90 percent of windows with western exposure broken; the first growth of alfalfa entirely destroyed; losses in wheat and other grains; most fruit and shade trees completely stripped of foliage; some livestock killed.
Guthrie, Okla.	23	4:30 p. m.	15	-----	125,000	Wind, hail, and rain.	Greenhouses completely demolished; roofs and windows of residences and stores and automobile tops badly damaged; loss to fruit trees, grain and other crops; path 8 miles long.
Bristow and Kiefer, Okla., and vicinity.	23	6:12-6:22 p. m.	-----	-----	113,000	Heavy hail.	Ground completely covered with hail; roofs damaged; windows broken; automobile tops riddled; trees were stripped of bark; early gardens beaten down; damage at Bristow \$100,000 and at Kiefer \$13,000; path several miles wide and 20 miles long.
Wheatland, Okla., vicinity of.	23	7:30 p. m.	-----	-----	7,500	Hail	Much damage to growing crops, especially oats; property damaged; path 6 miles long.
Hazelton, Kans., 5 miles north.	23	11:30 p. m.	11	-----	1,000	Heavy hail and rain.	Torrential rain; hailstones 5 to 6 feet deep in draws; heaviest hailstorm known to have occurred in this locality; wheat pounded into the ground; path 2 miles long.
Scott, Garfield, and Leighton, Iowa.	24	-----	333-1,760	-----	60,800	Tornadic wind and hail.	Buildings unroofed and barns leveled; estimated wind damage \$60,000 and hail damage \$900.
Western, Wash.	24	-----	-----	1	-----	Wind	Man drowned when his skiff capsized in a squall; slight damage and considerable delay to transportation and communication facilities.
Charlotte, N. C., and vicinity.	25	3 p. m.	50	0	27,000	Tornado and hail	\$1,000 tornado damage; \$26,000 damage from wind and hail within a radius of 25 miles of the station.
Dandridge (near), Tenn.	25	3:30 p. m.	67	0	50,000	Tornado	Property damaged; no details given.
Metropolis and Brookport, Ill.	25	3:40 p. m.	100	1	300,000	do	Storm began in Metropolis then lifted for about 3½ miles, striking again at Brookport; first there was lightning, then rain and hail and the funnel cloud which resembled an inverted hornet's nest; 34 persons injured, 4 seriously; in Metropolis 10 places of business, 46 homes, 7 barns or outbuildings were damaged or destroyed; in Brookport 8 places of business, 63 homes, and 39 barns or outbuildings were damaged or destroyed.
Knox County, Tenn.	25	4 p. m.	880	-----	53,000	Wind	5 persons injured; property damaged; path 40 miles long.
Madison County, N. C.	25	5:30 p. m.	11	1	75,000	Tornado	20 persons injured, 2 seriously; 60 persons homeless; path 20 miles long; property damage \$75,000.
Lumberton and Marietta, N. C.	25	P. m.	-----	1	-----	Electrical and wind.	Man killed by lightning; property damaged by wind.
Starr, S. C., vicinity of.	25	do	-----	-----	1,000	Thundersquall	Barn blown down; several small buildings unroofed.
Jackson County, Tenn.	25	-----	-----	-----	5,000	Wind	Property damaged.
Murfreesboro (near) to Woodbury, Tenn.	25	-----	-----	2	15,000	Tornado	10 persons injured; property damaged.
Wayne County, Tenn.	25	-----	-----	-----	1,000	Wind	Property damaged.
Blue Ridge, Ga., 2 miles north.	26	9 p. m.	300	0	25,000	Tornado	4 persons injured; property damaged; path 6 miles long.
Soddy (near), Tenn.	26	do	200	0	25,000	do	4 persons injured, 1 seriously; path 4 miles long; property loss \$25,000.
Zurich, Mont.	26	-----	-----	-----	600	Wind	An airplane was badly damaged when it was blown loose from its moorings and rolled across the field for nearly a mile.
Pearsall, Tex., and vicinity	27	2:30 p. m.	13	-----	-----	Hail	Roofs and windows damaged; crops completely destroyed in spots; path 15 miles long.
Tunica County, Miss.	27	4 p. m.	100	0	1,200	Tornado	Path short; other details not given.
Eros, La.	27	4:30-5 p. m.	11	-----	-----	Heavy hail	Considerable damage to property and gardens; amount not estimated; path 6 miles long.
Alcorn County, Miss.	27	5 p. m.	11	0	100,000	Tornado	1 person injured; path 5 miles long.
Nashville, Tenn., vicinity of.	27	-----	-----	-----	5,000	Excessive rain and hail.	3 persons injured when their car struck a tree blown across the road by the storm; streets and basements flooded; traffic halted; windows broken.
Stone's River National Park, Tenn.	28	6:15 p. m.	100	1	18,500	Tornado	Path 17 miles long; no details reported.
Welsh and Roanoke, La., vicinity of.	30	7 a. m.	12	-----	3,000	Squall	Houses and roofs damaged; path 10 miles long.
Creola, Ala.	30	8:45 a. m.	20	0	100	Tornado (probably).	End of school house sprung about 2 inches; small frame house moved a few inches off its foundation; faint roaring heard just before and during passage of disturbance.
Orange Grove, Tex.	30	10:20 p. m.	880	1	12,800	Tornado and hail.	7 persons injured; damage to houses, barns, and windmills, \$12,000; crop loss \$800.
Neshoba County, Miss.	30	P. m.	-----	0	-----	Tornado	Path narrow; damage slight.
Deepwater, Cody, and McNair, Tex.	31	2 a. m.	-----	1	-----	Wind	Houses unroofed and otherwise damaged; telephone poles blown down.
Dickinson, Tex.	31	do	14	-----	-----	do	Several barns and outbuildings destroyed; 2 oil derricks blown over.
Elm Park (near), La.	31	5:30 a. m.	100	0	5,000	Tornado	Buildings damaged; timber destroyed; path 8 miles long.
Lawrence County, Miss.	31	7:30 p. m.	2,640	4	30,000	do	10 persons injured; details not reported.

## LATE REPORTS, FEBRUARY 1935

Cleveland, Ohio, vicinity of	24	-----	2,640	-----	35,000	Hail	Property damaged; path 10 miles long.
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<sup>1</sup> Miles instead of yards.

